

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 23, 2019
6 PM
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Sam Borelli called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., 90069.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Clifford Roberts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Sam Borelli, Steven L., Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri, Andrew L. Reback, Patrick Shandrick
ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Joan Mithers, Corri Planck, Elizabeth Anderson, and Jeff Book.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, July 23, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes of July 9, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Nate Clark thanked the members of the Commission for the important work they do for the community and expressed his appreciation of serving with them. He said he hoped the Commission would continue to recognize the needs of families and children in the City, and noted the creation of wehoparents.org.
2. Alexis Sanchez of the West Hollywood Project and Safe WeHo Coalition spoke about their analysis of data from surveys completed at #SIZZLE! (LA PRIDE), and #BOOM! (New Year's Eve), with many describing meth as a major problem in the community. She invited the public to attend the Safe WeHo Coalition meetings.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING – SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF’S FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2019-2020 SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

Commissioner Borelli reviewed the process of determining 2019-2020 Social Services contracts, which has led to the step of holding a Public Hearing for input on the proposals from Social Services agencies.

David Giugni gave an update on the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. He stated that 39 proposals were received by the deadline of June 5, 2019. Nine applicants are not currently contracted Social Services providers, and one current provider, A Safe Refuge, did not reapply. Commission members had the opportunity to provide questions about the applications to staff, who consulted with the agencies when needed. Responses to these questions were provided to the entire Commission on a weekly basis through Friday, June 28, 2019. Staff has completed its recommendations and spoke with all applicants to advise them of the recommendations and to encourage them to attend this meeting.

David Giugni highlighted six agencies being recommended for funding which are not currently contracted with the City for service: Awakening Recovery, Inc., JQ International, Los Angeles LGBT Center Senior Services, Seeds of Hope, Trans Can Work, Inc., and the TransLatin@ Coalition. He also highlighted 13 agencies recommended to provide enhanced services: Alliance for Housing & Healing, APLA Health & Wellness, Ascencia, Being Alive, Bet Tzedek, Friends Research Institute, JFS Comprehensive Services Center, JFS SOVA Food Pantry, Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Services for Homeless Youth, Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP), NCJW’s Rental Assistance Program, Saban Community Clinic, and Step Up on Second.

The proposed contracts run from October 1, 2019, to September 30, 2020, and can be renewed.

Commissioner Borelli declared the Public Hearing open. Public Comment was received from the following, who spoke about community needs and social services programs:

1. Richard Valenza, Raise A Child
2. Yola Doré, in support of programs on health and food insecurity
3. Marjorie Gilberg, National Council of Jewish Women
4. Mandi Carpenter, JFS Comprehensive Services Center

5. Jeff Bailey, APLA Health & Wellness
6. Roger Coggan, Los Angeles LGBT Center
7. Eden Anaï Luna, Los Angeles LGBT Center
8. Monica Phillips Friendly House
9. Marc Hauptert, Friendly House
10. Julie Smith, Friendly House
11. Mark R. Edwards, JVS SoCal – WeHo Works
12. Jack Lorenz, Alliance for Housing & Healing
13. Chris Clarkin, Los Angeles LGBT Center – WeHo Life program
14. David Van Der Velde, Awakening Recovery, Inc.
15. Fred Summers, JFS SOVA
16. Cathy Reback, Friends Research Institute
17. Tim Alderson, Seeds of Hope
18. Maria Roman, TransLatin@ Coalition
19. Bamby Salcedo, TransLatin@ Coalition
20. Queen Victoria Ortega, Los Angeles LGBT Center’s TEEP
21. Brian Hardin, McIntyre House
22. Gary Seiden, McIntyre House
23. Bella, TransLatin@ Coalition
24. Alexia Partido, TransLatin@ Coalition
25. Michaé Pulido, TransLatin@ Coalition
26. Lisa Ceballo, TransLatin@ Coalition
27. Gina Hernandez, TransLatin@ Coalition
28. Alex Sandro Salazar, Tarzana Treatment Center
29. Rob Lester, Men’s Health Foundation
30. Kim Fedrick, JVS SoCal – WeHo Works
31. Kiera Pollock, Los Angeles LGBT Center Senior Services, and
32. Tripp Mills, Los Angeles LGBT Center Senior Services.

Chair Borelli declared the Public Hearing closed.

The Chair invited members of the Commission to disclose whether they would recuse themselves due to having a connection to any of the applicant agencies, and the following Commissioners stated their recusals: Commissioner Borelli, regarding Seeds of Hope; Commissioner Davis, regarding Men’s Health Foundation; Commissioner Palmieri, regarding Saban Community Clinic; and Commissioner Reback, regarding APLA Health & Wellness, and Friends Research Institute.

The Commissioners thanked the social services agencies for their positive impact on the community, and thanked their representatives and proponents for attending. Commissioners posed questions to staff regarding their recommendations about applicant agencies, including Saban Community Clinic; Los Angeles LGBT Center; WeHo Life; McIntyre House; Step Up on Second; Friendly House; Awakening Recovery, Inc.; the Motion Picture and Television Fund; Disability Community Resource

Center; Jewish Family Service; Bet Tzedek; and agencies providing housing assistance.

4. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

There were no Excluded Consent Calendar items.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

David Giugni stated that the next agenda will include the selection of a representative to the Complete Count Committee, which will develop ways to ensure that every resident will be fully counted in the 2020 US Census.

David Giugni said staff is working with Dr. Aaron Celious regarding aspects of the HIV Zero report, and they anticipate having an update on an upcoming agenda.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

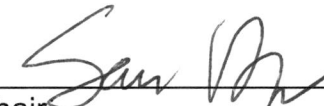
There was no additional Public Comment.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Palmieri spoke about the need to find out why there was such a low level of PrEP use in the community. Commissioner Davis noted the importance of filling the office of Vice Chair and asked for it to be included on the next agenda. Commissioners thanked agency representatives for attending, thanked staff for developing the recommendations to be considered at the next meeting, and thanked Nate Clark for his hard work as a member of the Human Services Commission.

- 9. ADJOURNMENT:** The Human Services Commission was adjourned at 7:51 pm to a Special Meeting to be held Tuesday, July 30, 2019, beginning at 6:00 pm, in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room/Council Chambers at 625 North San Vicente Boulevard, 90069. This is also the address for rideshare or drop-off.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE
30TH DAY OF JULY 2019.

Chair 

Attest:


Secretary